Amendments to the Claims:

1-46. (canceled)

47. (Currently amended) A method of normalizing output values of a laser diode, the method comprising:

a) varying control currents for a specific section of a laser diode device over a range of values in a first sample index so as to obtain a set of output values for that section of the laser diode; and

b) normalizing the set of output values, wherein ~~the normalization of~~ the normalizing of the set of output values compensates for non-linearities in the output values by effecting a change in relationship between the control currents and the first sample index.

48. (Original) A computer readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to execute the method of claim 47.

49. (Original) The method of claim 47 wherein the output values are representative of power or frequency.

50. (Original) The method of claim 47 further comprising obtaining a set of normalized values for one or more other sections of the laser.

51. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47 wherein the normalizing of the set of output values ~~normalization~~ is effected by a transform applied to the first sample index, thereby changing the control currents and the output values.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the transform is a non-linear transform.

53. (Currently amended) The method of claim 51 wherein the generated transform is subsequently used to effect a further generation of a set of output values for multiple

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-0001
Facsimile: (312) 913-0002

combinations of control currents or sections for the laser device, the generated set ~~having~~ being normalized due to the utilization of the transform.

54. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47 wherein the normalizing of the set of output values ~~normalization~~ of the output values is effected using a current of mode jumps.

55. (Original) The method of claim 47 further comprising detecting mode jumps by a power measurement.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55 wherein the mode jumps are represented by discontinuities in the power measurement.

57. (Original) The method of 47 further comprising detecting mode jumps by a frequency measurement.

58. (Original) The method of claim 57 wherein the mode jumps are represented by a step in a frequency measurement.

59. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47 wherein the normalizing of the set of output values ~~normalization~~ is effected by a transform applied to the first sample index, thereby changing the control currents and the output values, and wherein the application of the transform effects an equalization of mode width.

60. (Original) The method of claim 47 further comprising determining deviations in mode width, thereby providing indications of the integrity of the laser device.

61. (Original) The method of claim 47 wherein the normalization is effected using a relative loss of that section as a function of control current.

62. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47 wherein a gain current of the laser device can be altered ~~using~~ by the normalizing of the set of output values ~~normalization~~.

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-0001
Facsimile: (312) 913-0002

63. (Currently amended) The method of claim 47 wherein normalized output values resulting from the normalizing of the set of output values ~~normalization output values~~ provide a determination of locations of modes.

64. (Original) The method of claim 63 wherein the modes are locatable by effecting a differentiating of the normalized values.

65. (Original) The method of claim 47 further comprising determining suitable operating points, wherein the operating points are selectable on the basis of a determination of a mid-point in frequency values for a specific mode.

66. (Original) The method of claim 64 wherein one of the suitable operating points is at a mean frequency for that mode and benefits from maximum side mode suppression.

67-70. (Canceled)

71. (Currently amended) A control system for normalizing the output values of a laser diode, the system comprising:

means for varying control currents for a specific section of a laser diode device over a range of values in a first sample index so as to obtain a set of output values for that section of the laser diode; and

means for normalizing the set of output values, wherein the normalizing the set ~~normalization~~ of the output values compensates for non-linearities in the output values by effecting a change in relationship between the control currents and the first sample index.

72. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 71 wherein the output values are representative of power or frequency.

73. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 71 further comprising means for obtaining a set of normalized values for one or more further sections of the laser.

74. (Currently amended) The system of claim 71 wherein normalizing the set of output vlaues ~~the normalization~~ is effected by a transform applied to the first sample index, thereby changing the control currents and the output values.

75. (Original) The system of claim 74 wherein the transform is a non-linear transform.

76. (Currently amended) The system of claim 74 wherein the generated transform is subsequently used to effect the further generation of a set of output values for multiple combinations of control currents or sections for the laser device, the generated set ~~having~~ being normalized due to the utilization of the transform.

77. (Currently amended) The system of claim 71 wherein the normalizing the set of output values ~~normalization of the output values~~ is effected using a current of mode jumps.

78. (Original) The system of claim 71 further comprising a means for detecting mode jumps by a power measurement.

79. (Original) The system of claim 78 wherein the mode jumps are represented by discontinuities in a power measurement.

80. (Original) The system of claim 71 further comprising means for detecting mode jumps by a frequency measurement.

81. (Original) The system of claim 80 wherein mode jumps are represented by a step in a frequency measurement.

82. (Original) The system of claim 71 wherein the application of the transform effects an equalization of mode width.

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-0001
Facsimile: (312) 913-0002

83. (Original) The system of claim 71 further comprising means for determining deviations in mode width, thereby providing indications of the integrity of the laser device.

84. (Currently amended) The system of claim 71 wherein the normalizing the set of output values ~~the normalization~~ is effected using a relative loss of that section as a function of control current.

85. (Original) The system of claim 71 wherein a gain current of the laser device can be altered using said normalization.

86. (Original) The system of claim 71 wherein the normalization output values provide for a determination of location of modes.

87. (Original) The system of claim 71 further comprising means for determining suitable operating points, the operating points being selectable on the basis of a determination of a mid-point in frequency values for a specific mode.

88. (Original) The system of claim 87 wherein one of the operating points is at the mean frequency for that mode and benefits from maximum side mode suppression.

89. (Original) The system of claim 71 wherein the normalization output values provides for a determination of location of modes and wherein the modes are locatable by effecting a differentiating of the normalized values.

90-91. (Canceled)

92. (Currently amended) A control system for normalizing the output values of a laser diode, the system comprising:

a current source control for varying control currents for a specific section of a laser diode device over a range of values in a first sample index so as to obtain a set of output values for that section of the laser diode; and

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-0001
Facsimile: (312) 913-0002

a control system for ~~normalizes~~ normalizing the set of output values, wherein the normalizing of the set of output values ~~normalization of the output values~~ compensates for non-linearities in the output values by effecting a change in relationship between the control currents and the first sample index.

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-0001
Facsimile: (312) 913-0002